

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) to (c) It is proposed to set up the following two Gas-based Power Projects in Bharuch district of Gujarat -

(i) Gandhar Combined Cycle Gas Turbine TPS of NTPC 650 MW

(ii) Gandhar combined Cycle Gas Turbine TPS of Gujarat 615 MW

The Gandhar Combined Cycle Gas Turbine TPS (alongwith the Associated Transmission System) of NTPC has since been approved by the Government at an estimated cost of Rs 1860 11 Crores. The project is likely to be completed in a period of 42 months after the award of main plant contract. The necessary infrastructural development at site is progressing satisfactorily. As regards Gandhar Combined Cycle Gas Tribune TPS of Gujarat, it has not got the investment approval. The commissioning of these stations would improve the power supply position of the State of Gujarat and the Western Region.

*** Expenditure on Telephone Bills of Ministers**

1873 SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the month-wise expenditure incurred on the telephone bills of each of ministers during the last eight months?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) The information has been called for from the concerned Ministries and it will be placed on the Table of The House as soon as it is received.

[English]

Expansion of Telephone Exchanges in Kerala

1874. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the details regarding the expansion of telephone exchanges in Kerala,

(b) whether the Government propose to set up new telephone exchanges in Kerala during 1992-93, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) There were 639 telephone exchanges in Kerala state as on 31 3 1991. During the current financial year 1991-92, 94 telephone exchanges have been expanded upto 31st January, 1992 with total addition in the Switching Capacity by 30545 lines. 73 more telephone exchanges are likely to be expanded during the remaining part of the year.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) 10 New telephone exchanges are planned to be opened during 92-93 at Po-laorkavu, Karimpon, Kanjikuzhy, Vazhavara, Puliymmala, Mekkadamba, Delampady, Rajagiri, Vettilapara and Nilamel in the State of Kerala.

[Translation]

Supply of Power from Rihand Dam

*1875 SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether power to Bihar is no supplied from Rihand Dam,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantum of power generated at Rihand Dam during the last three years; and

(d) the percentage of power supplied to various States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). The energy generation at Rihand Dam during 1988-89 to 1991-92 (upto Jan., 92) is as under:-

Year	Generation
1988-89	632
1989-90	864
1990-91	620
1991-92 (upto Jan., 92)	1076

Power from various generating stations, including Rihand Dam, is fed into the Northern regional grid from where it gets distributed among the States/Systems in the Northern Region. Bihar State is not a constituent of the Northern Grid/Region.

[English]

Public Telephone with STD Facility in Villages

1876. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide public telephone with STD facility to every village in the country;

(b) whether any target date has been fixed therefor;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d). As a first step Government have planned to provide telephone facility to all the panchayat villages progressively by 31.3.1995 subject to availability of resources. Government have also proposed to extend telephone facility to all other villages progressively during 1995-2000 A.D.

A proposal to provide STD facility on Telephones being provided in Panchayat villages is also under consideration.

Renewable Sources of Energy

1877. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any further programmes for harnessing the renewable sources of energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made by the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has been implementing a comprehensive programme of research, development and demonstration in the field of new and renewable sources